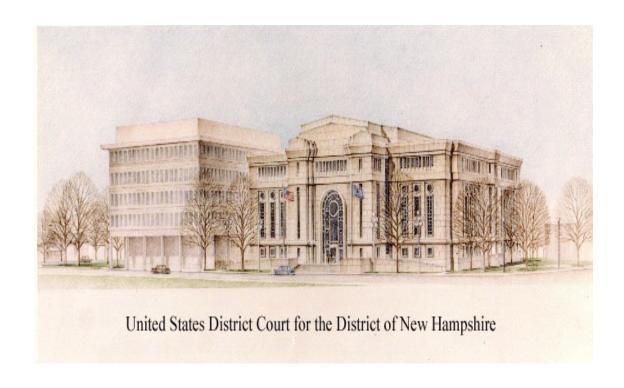
# DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE U.S. PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE 2011 ANNUAL REPORT



Thomas K. Tarr
Chief U. S. Probation/Pretrial Services Officer

## 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

# U.S. PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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I am proud to present the U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Annual Report for FY 2011. Our values continue to be grounded in service to the court, the community, offenders/defendants and our employees.

Fiscal year 2011 marked the beginning of a challenging and difficult fiscal environment which is likely to continue for the immediate future. Early in the year, discussion and preparation regarding possible government "shutdown" set an ominous tone. Predictions of tightening budgets and constricted resources turned into reality. The cost containment measures that we implemented locally will become more long term in nature as we continue to identify ways to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

Regardless of the level of funding, the important and critical work we perform must continue. While PSR and PTS activity saw a decline during the year, supervision activity via BOP releases saw a corresponding rise. This increase is likely a result of the BOP being oversubscribed at about 130% above capacity with record numbers of confined offenders. The corresponding trend in accelerated release activity is likely to continue into the immediate future with the activation of FCI Berlin in FY 2012.

In trying to identify efficiencies, the district made a concerted effort to strengthening IT capability with enhancements to mobile computing, remote access and implementation of ERS initiatives such as Kiosk and internet reporting and Digital Pen technology. Each of these initiatives provide staff with an additional tool to "work smarter" and maximize technology in carrying our their mandated responsibilities.

In the fall of 2011, the office underwent it's cyclical financial audit conducted by the AO Office of Audit. The audits occur every four years and examine all of the financial transactions over that four year period. With the assistance from several dedicated staff members, I'm proud to report that, for the first time, the U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office had a "no findings" outcome, confirming the office's sound fiscal and financial practices.

In closing, the anticipated fiscal challenges that lie ahead will not diminish our approach to our profession or our responsibilities to our constituents. We will face those challenges with the same determination, dedication and commitment that we have always displayed as an office.



# U.S. PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

It is the mission of the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office for the District of New Hampshire, as a component of the federal judiciary responsible for community corrections, to provide protection to the citizens of New Hampshire and to assist in the fair administration of justice.

# **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

#### We believe ...

- In protecting the community while offering every offender the opportunity for meaningful change.
- ★ In being sensitive to victims' concerns and responsive to their needs.
- ★ In pursuing proactive change and continuous improvement in our quest for quality.
- ★ In seeking justice through integrity, honesty, and fairness.
- ★ In promoting collaboration and communication within the office and with other agencies.
- ★ In recognizing, rewarding, and developing every staff member.

# **VISION**

The U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office for the District of New Hampshire strives to exceed the highest ideals in community corrections.

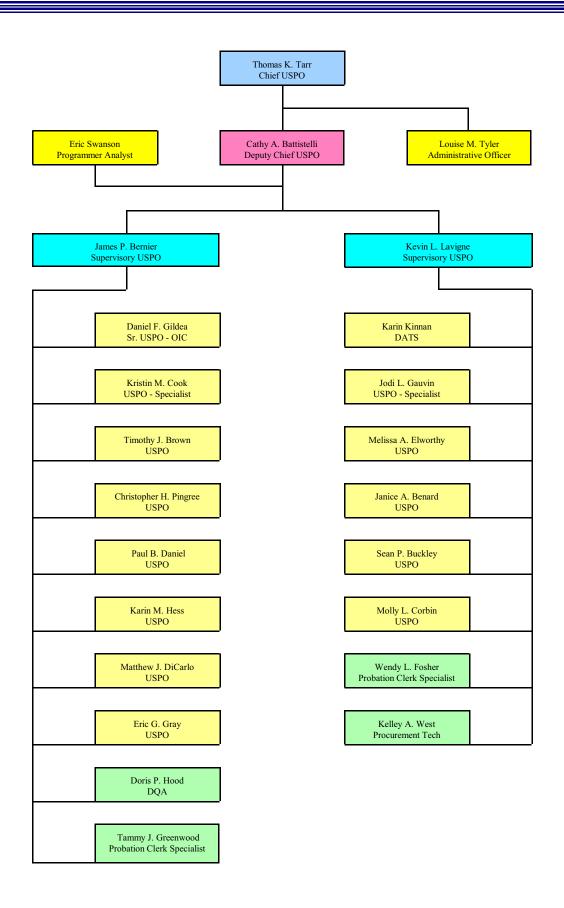
The U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office for the District of New Hampshire is a combined office located in the Warren B. Rudman U.S. Courthouse, Concord, New Hampshire. Since 1997, the District has also operated a small sub-office in Manchester, New Hampshire. This office is situated in Hillsborough County (where the greatest number of federal offenders reside) and is used on a rotating, as-needed basis by officers. However, as a result of the change in the organizational structure and the increasing number of offenders living in the greater Manchester/Nashua area, an Officer-in-Charge and one supervision officer have been assigned to the Manchester office on a permanent basis, while other officers routinely use this office as needed

The office serves the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire which consists of three full-time judges, one senior judge, and one full-time magistrate judge. In addition, the Chief Deputy of the U.S. District Court serves as a magistrate judge. Investigative services in the form of pretrial services reports and presentence investigation reports are one aspect of the office's responsibilities to the Court. Supervision services of pretrial defendants and post-conviction offenders (i.e., probationers and supervised releasees) are the second aspect of the office's responsibilities. The office also supervises parolees and military parolees under agreement with the U.S. Parole Commission, and provides investigative and supervision services to the U.S. Attorney's Office for its Pretrial Diversion Program. The office is responsible for all such matters in the State of New Hampshire, an area of approximately 10,000 square miles.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Chief Probation Officer is the unit executive responsible for all administrative functions, personnel, and budget. The Deputy Chief and Administrative Officer report directly to the Chief. As rendered in the Organizational Chart on page 6, the office is organized to accomplish its mission by dividing its major functions: court investigations and supervision services. Investigations Unit conducts all pretrial interviews, attends initial appearances, prepares presentence reports, and attends all hearings associated with the sentencing process, while the Supervision Unit is responsible for the day to day supervision of all active pretrial and post-conviction cases. Although each officer is assigned to an individual unit, it is the office philosophy that, because the District is small by national standards, every officer serves the Court best if he or she is able to perform all of the major functions of the office. The Deputy Chief is essentially the operations manager over both units, with a supervisor as the head of each unit. The Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist administers the office's contracts with treatment providers in addition to carrying out other treatment related responsibilities and having a caseload. Two clerical support staff members are assigned to each of the supervision and court investigation units. The data quality analyst performs clerical support to the supervision unit in addition to her other duties. Each unit also has at least one student intern. The office also shares a six member automation unit with chambers and the Clerk's Office and pays the salary of one of the unit's full-time staff members.

Additionally, a management team consisting of the Chief, Deputy Chief, Administrative Officer, two unit supervisors, and the Officer-in-Charge exists to address all office management issues, including inter-unit cooperation, resource allocation and planning, intra-office communication, training and automation needs, and other issues having an office-wide impact. The management philosophy is one of continually seeking to improve the quality of our services to the court and public, and of seeking to become more efficient through modification of processes to accomplish our work.



## **Personnel Changes and Highlights**

Eric Swanson transferred from the US District Court IT staff to the US Probation Office IT staff on October 1, 2010.

Eric Gray, a US Pretrial Services Officer in the District of Massachusetts, transferred to this District on March 14, 2011.

## **Management Team**

The office's Management Team continued to address a number of issues of office-wide impact during the year. Most noteworthy were addressing budget shortfalls, completing initiatives in the supervision unit that had begun the previous year, and management of a fluctuating caseload. The Management Team declared a "moratorium" on new local initiatives to be implemented to allow staff an opportunity to complete existing projects and focus on core duties. However, it was determined that the office would implement new AO initiatives in the form of new risk assessment tools and ongoing projects such as the use of the Digital Pen.

In addition, due to budgetary concerns for the 2011 fiscal year, the Chief and Deputy Chief Probation Officers met with the Chief Judge and the new in-coming Chief Judge to discuss procedural changes to be made by this office to address financial constraints and cost containment strategies. Management presented the following options which were approved by the Court: use of the stipulated version of facts in plea agreements in the Offense Conduct section of presentence reports which would save officers significant amounts of time in the preparation of the psr; stop the practice of notifying the Court of every positive drug test, rather, the office would continue to take corrective actions to address the non-compliance and notify the Court if the offender tested positive on three separate occasions within a twelve month period as required by statute; simplify/streamline the revocation process "paperwork;" focus supervision efforts on medium and high risk cases; and put low risk cases on an administrative caseload. In addition, the office would continue to re-evaluate other internal procedures to determine any other changes that needed to be implemented.

#### **Teleworking Program**

The District of NH has had a Teleworking policy for the past several years which allows staff (primarily employees completing presentence investigations) to perform their official duties and responsibilities in a setting away from the traditional workplace, most often at home, which management finds reasonable and which promotes the mission of the office. The district's experience with such a policy has demonstrated that the benefits of the policy outweighed its costs. During FY 2011, six (out of twenty-three) staff members participated in the District's Telework Program for a total of 599 hours.

# **Coordination with Other Court Personnel**

Communication with court personnel and other federal agencies continues to improve consistently as it has done in the past. The office is continually educating all interested parties of our role, duties, and responsibilities and has a positive and productive working relationship with the court, attorneys, and all other federal agencies.

During FY 2011, the Court Investigations Unit served as the single source of pretrial and presentence investigations for the Court. This time frame also saw officers refine their investigative techniques. Regarding pretrial and presentence investigations, officers continued to emphasize collateral contacts with family members and/or significant others in all cases to verify offender characteristics. This measure enhanced the accuracy of the information contained in the bail report and presentence report, and established a point of contact for future release planning.

FY 2011 marked the introduction and utilization of the Pretrial Risk Assessment (PTRA) when conducting pretrial services investigations. Officers regularly utilized this tool to supplement the risk assessment process concerning nonappearance and dangerousness. Officers continued to utilize the Victim Notification System (VNS) to assist in identifying and contacting victims.

#### **Pretrial Interview Procedure**

The Court Investigations Unit has assigned one officer as a primary bail person with a backup officer to handle all defendants who were arrested or summonsed to appear in Court. This process ensures that one officer provides primary bail duties for approximately six months and the backup officer position rotates on a bi-weekly basis which ensures that assignment of cases is distributed in an equitable manner across the unit.

If a defendant is released on pretrial supervision, there is a supervision duty officer available to meet with the defendant following the hearing. Continuing the practice initiated under Operation Drug TEST, an officer seeks to obtain a urine sample from the defendant, the results of which are included in the Pretrial Services report. Upon completion of each Pretrial Services interview, verification is performed via a state and local criminal record check with the assistance of New Hampshire State Police as well as a SPOTS motor vehicle check through the New Hampshire Department of Safety. The office runs all criminal record checks through ATLAS and attempts are also made to verify the information on the interview worksheet by contacting the defendant's family members, employer, friends, etc. Officers make every effort to provide the judicial officer with a written bail report at the defendant's initial appearance. In a limited number of cases, this is not always possible and an oral report is offered, with a post-bail report subsequently being submitted.

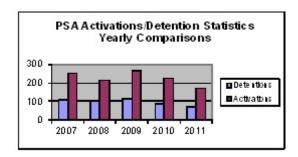
Copies of criminal summonses are provided to the Court Investigations Unit by the Clerk's Office. When the summons is prepared by the U.S. Attorney's Office, a notice is typed on the document instructing the defendant to contact the probation office to arrange for a Pretrial Services interview. Appointments with the defendant are scheduled two hours prior to the hearing to give the officer ample time to interview the defendant and prepare a written, verified report.

# PRETRIAL SERVICES TRENDS IN THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### **Case Activations**

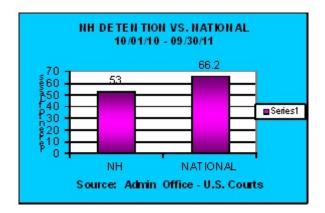
Fiscal year 2011 ended with a total of 171 case activations, a 25% decrease over fiscal year 2010. The U.S. Attorney's Office has advised this office that they intend to increase criminal filings in the District of New Hampshire. The following graph, which also includes detentions, depicts pretrial

case activations over the last five fiscal years.

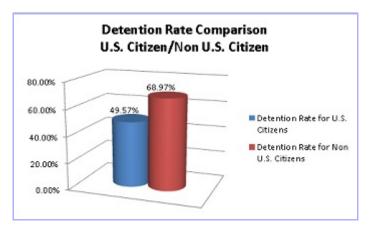


#### **Detention Rate**

The District's detention rate for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011 was 53% which is an increase from the 2010 rate of 46.4%. The District's 2011 rate continues to be significantly lower than the national rate of 66.2% for the same time period. This office continues to keep the Court informed of alternatives to detention, such as location monitoring, and submits such recommendations when appropriate.



During FY 2011, the District began comparing detention rates of U.S. citizens with non U.S. citizens. The information is depicted in the chart below.

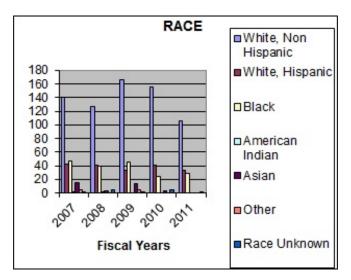


#### **Profile of Pretrial Defendants**

As can be seen in the following demographics, the most common demographics for a pretrial defendant in the District of New Hampshire is that of a white, non-Hispanic single male, between the ages of 26 to 30 and is charged with a drug offense. Concerning education, 54 defendants possessed a high school diploma or GED compared with 36 who were without a high school diploma or GED. This profile differs from the average defendant in FY 2010 where there was virtually no difference in education.

#### Race

In reviewing the 171 case activations in the District of New Hampshire, 106 (61.98%) were White Non-Hispanic, 34 (19.88%) were White Hispanic, 29 (16.9%) were Black, and 2 (1.1%) individuals' race were unknown. 132 (77.19%) were United States citizens, 16 (9.35%) were Illegal Aliens, and 23 (13.45%) individuals' status were unknown.



# Sex and Age Range

No juveniles were prosecuted in this District. Sixteen (9.35%) of the pretrial defendants were males between the ages of 18-25 while five (2.92%) in that age group were females; 30 (17.54%) were males between ages 26-30 while 6 (3.51%) were females; sixteen (9.35%) were males between the ages of 31-35 while four (2.34%) were females; nineteen (11.11%) were males between the ages of 36-40 while five (2.92%) were females; 22 (12.87%) defendants were males between the ages of 41-45 while 5 (2.92%) were females; and 15 (8.77%) were males between the ages 46-50 while 3 (1.75%) were females. Finally, 22 (12.86%) were males over age 50, while 3 (1.75%) were females in that age group.

#### **Marital Status**

There were 40 (23.39%) defendants who were married; 47 (27.48%) were single, 15 (8.77%) were cohabiting, 23 (13.45%) were divorced, 4 (2.34%) were separated, 2 (1.17%) were widowed, and 40 (23.39%) marital status was unknown.

#### **Education**

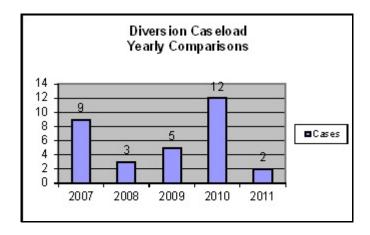
Regarding education, 36 (21.05%) had no High School Diploma or GED, 41 (23.97%) had graduated from High School, 13 (7.60%) had a G.E.D., 0 (0.00%) attended Vocational Training, 7 (4.09%) had an Associate Degree, 11 (6.43%) had a Bachelor Degree, 3 (1.75%) had a Master Degree, 1 (.58%) had a Doctorate Degree, and 43 (25.14%) individuals educational status was unknown.

# **Charged Offenses**

The vast majority of pretrial defendants were charged with drug offenses (51 defendants or 29.82%). Fifty individuals (29.24%) were charged with a property offense; 28 (16.37%) were charged with firearms/weapons offenses; 11 (6.43%) were charged with violent offenses; 15 (8.77%) were charged with immigration offenses; 13 (7.60%) were charged with sex offenses; 1 (0.58%) was charged with a public order offense; and 2 (1.17%) were charged with escape/obstruction.

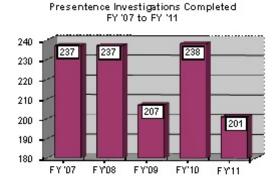
#### PRETRIAL DIVERSION

Pretrial Diversion cases are initiated by the United States Attorney via a request for investigation submitted in letter form to the U.S. Probation Office. The U.S. Probation Officer/student intern then begins the diversion investigation which results in a written report and recommendation to the United States Attorney. If approved by all parties, an agreement is signed and supervision is provided by the U.S. Probation Office. In general, cases range from theft of government property to Social Security fraud, however, this does not exclude additional agency referrals. In fiscal year 2011, the diversion program saw a significant decrease in diversion investigations completed (2 investigations compared to a high of 12 in 2010).

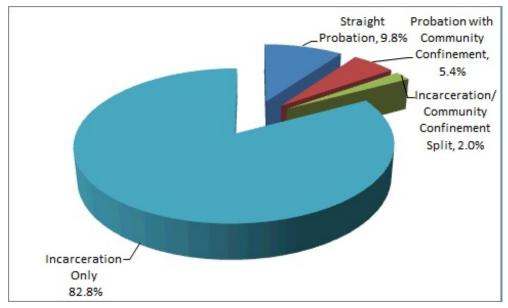


PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATIONS and SENTENCING ISSUES

A total of 201 presentence investigation reports were completed during FY 2011; a 16% decrease from the number of reports completed in FY 2010. As shown in the chart below, the number of investigations completed dropped significantly compared to the previous year.



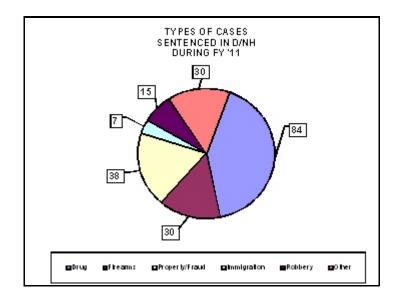
The Court sentenced 204 defendants during the fiscal year as opposed to the 231 defendants sentenced in FY 2010. A review of the sentences imposed reflects that 173 defendants were sentenced to prison. Of those defendants, 21 were sentenced to up to 12 months imprisonment; 56 were ordered to serve between 13 and 24 months imprisonment; 20 were ordered to serve between 25 and 36 months imprisonment; 28 were ordered to serve between 37 and 60 months imprisonment; and 38 were ordered to serve more than 60 months imprisonment. Only 31 defendants received a probationary sentence. Of that number, 20 defendants received a probation-only sentence while 11 defendants received a sentence of probation with some type of confinement.



Of note, the most significant decrease in the length of sentence received by defendants in this Court compared to FY 2010 occurred within the greater-than-60-months range. Specifically, there was a 35% decrease in the number of sentences ordered which exceeded 60 months. Of course, this number may be slightly misleading considering the significant decrease in the overall number of cases sentenced in FY 2011. This notwithstanding, the average sentence received by a defendant in this District was 50 months, which is down nearly 12 months from FY 2010.

The vast majority of the cases sentenced in this District remain drug cases at 41% (84 cases). Property/fraud offenses were the second highest category at 18.6% (38 cases). Firearm offenses accounted for 14.7% of the cases (30 cases), while robbery cases (7% or 15 cases) and immigration

cases (3.5% or 7 cases) rounded out the list.



Guilty pleas accounted for 97.5% of the cases sentenced during FY 2011 compared to the national average of 96.9% and the First Circuit average of 95.8%. In the District of New Hampshire, 2.5% of the defendants proceeded to trial as compared to the national average of 3.1% and the First Circuit average of 4.2%. Moreover, male defendants accounted for 83.2% of the total number of defendants sentenced in this district.

	Plea	Trial	<b>Total Cases</b>
NH	199 ( <b>97.5%</b> )	5 ( <b>2.5%</b> )	204
National Average	83,509 ( <b>96.9%</b> )	2,691 ( <b>3.1%</b> )	86,200
1st Circuit	2,276 ( <b>95.8%</b> )	99 ( <b>4.2%</b> )	2,375

In the District of New Hampshire, 41.7% of all cases were sentenced within the advisory guideline range. This figure has remained relatively unchanged over the last few years. On the national level, 54.5% of all cases were sentenced within the range while 57.6% of all First Circuit cases were sentenced with the range. In the District of New Hampshire, there was one case (0.5%) sentenced by way of an upward departure and eight cases (3.9%) sentenced above the range based on factors identified by 18 U.S.C. § 3553.

#### SENTENCES ABOVE THE ADVISORY GUIDELINE RANGE

	Upward Departure with 18 U.S.C. § 3553 Factors	Sentences Imposed Above Guideline Range with 18 U.S.C. § 3553 Factors	All Remaining Cases Sentenced Above Guideline Range	Upward Departures from Guideline Range
NH		5 (3.9%)		1 ( <b>0.5%</b> )
National	109	947	92	379
Average	( <b>0.1%</b> )	(1.1%)	( <b>0.1%</b> )	( <b>0.4%</b> )
1st Circuit	1	37	3	6
	( <b>0.1%</b> )	(1.6%)	( <b>0.1%</b> )	( <b>0.3%</b> )

Downward departures pursuant to USSG §5K1.1 still represent the largest percentage of cases sentenced below the range in this District (16.7%) as compared to the national average of 11.2% and the First Circuit average of 10.6%.

#### GOVERNMENT SPONSORED DOWNWARD DEPARTURES

	5K1.1	5K3.1	Other
NH	34 (16.7%)		26 ( <b>12.7%</b> )
National Average	9,522	9,057	3,716
	( <b>11.2%</b> )	( <b>10.7%</b> )	( <b>4.4%</b> )
1st Circuit	247	17	205
	( <b>10.6%</b> )	( <b>0.7%</b> )	( <b>8.8%</b> )

In addition, 2.0% of the cases involved downward departures for other reasons and 19.6% of the cases involving a sentence below the advisory guideline range for 3553 factors. The chart below outlines the guideline sentencing issues for this District, the First Circuit, and the nation.

#### SENTENCES BELOW THE ADVISORY GUIDELINE RANGE

	Downward Departure	Downward Departure with 18 U.S.C. § 3553 Factors	Below Guideline Range for 18 U.S.C. § 3553 Factors	All Remaining Cases Below Guideline Range
NH	4	6	40	0
	( <b>2.0%</b> )	( <b>2.9%</b> )	( <b>19.6%</b> )	( <b>0.0%</b> )
National	1,976	917	11,371	498
Average	( <b>2.3%</b> )	( <b>1.1%</b> )	(13.4%)	( <b>0.6%</b> )
1st Circuit	59	26	362	20
	( <b>2.5%</b> )	(1.1%)	(1 <b>5.6%</b> )	( <b>0.9%</b> )

#### LASER DOCKET PROGRAM

The District of New Hampshire began a pilot "front-end" drug court program in July 2010. The Law-Abiding, Sober, Employed, and Responsible (LASER) Docket is a cooperative effort between the Court, the United States Attorney's Office, the United States Probation Office, the United States Marshals Service, and the Federal Public Defender's Office. LASER is a rehabilitative court program for individuals involved in the federal criminal justice system and offers a creative blend of treatment and sanction alternatives in an effort to effectively address defendant/offender behavior, promote rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, as well as ensure the safety of our communities. The pre-planning efforts began in 2009 and the program's first official session was held on July 12, 2010. During Fiscal Year 2011, five new pretrial defendants were approved for the program bringing the total number of participants to twelve pretrial defendants. All of the defendants in the program were medium to high risk cases based on the Risk Prediction Index (RPI) with an average RPI score of 4.2. The majority of the individuals in the program were charged with drug trafficking crimes; however, one participant was charged with a firearm related offense and another was charged with bank robbery. During the course of the fiscal year, three people were terminated from the program; two for violating program rules and one for committing new crimes. In August 2011, the program held its first graduation.



#### **DIGITAL PEN PROJECT**

With the assistance of the U.S. Pretrial Services Office from the Western District of Texas, the District implemented the utilization of a digital pen in the preparation of bail reports in an attempt to save officer/clerk data entry time into PACTS. Two officers were selected to pilot the program and received training in this area. This project will continue to evolve over the next fiscal year and will be used in connection with the implementation of the automated bail report in PSX.

#### PRETRIAL RISK ASSESSMENT (PTRA)

All officers in the Court Investigation Unit received PTRA training in August 2010 and subsequently completed the on-line certification aspect by December 2010. Actual implementation of PTRA was delayed until April 2011 due to competing workload demands; however, by the end of December 2011, 96 out of 175 (54.9%) of all pretrial cases activated during 2011 had PTRA scores completed.

#### PRETRIAL SUPERVISION

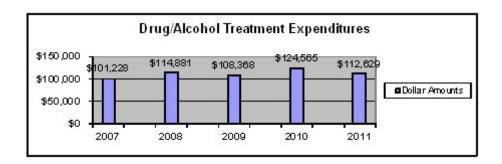
As shown in the following chart, the majority of pretrial case activations included conditions for drug testing and treatment and a small number of cases involved mental health treatment.

Pretrial Services Defendants With Conditions Of Release (Table H-8) For 12-Month Period Ending: 2011/09/30

Circuit	District Name	Defendants Released	Defendants Received For Pretrial Services Supervision	Third Party Custody	Testing Only	Treatment And Testing	Home Confinement	Mental Health	Other
1	Maine	133	117	8	6	87	11	46	113
	Massachusetts	377	355	37	115	58	66	50	341
	New Hampshire	78	70	6	9	36	10	18	65
	Puerto Rico	541	547	8	111	150	147	147	541
	Rhode Island	87	75	5	11	22	26	16	74
1	Total	1,216	1,164	64	252	353	260	277	1,134

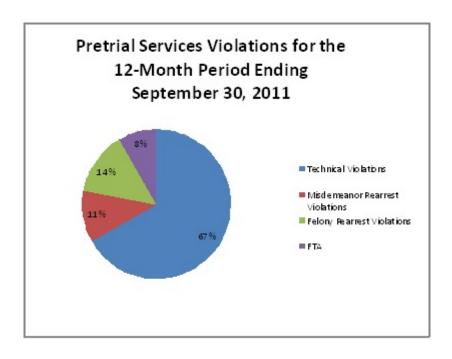
#### **Drug/Alcohol Treatment Expenditures**

Costs for drug and alcohol treatment for pretrial defendants in FY 2011 was \$123,018; the District was able to receive defendant co-payments totaling \$10,389, resulting in a total cost of services to the District of \$112,629. It should be noted that the office also had total costs of \$5,296 in mental health treatment. Such expenditures for the last five fiscal years are rendered in the following graph.



#### **Pretrial Services Violations**

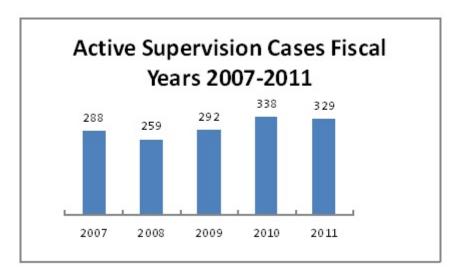
During this past fiscal year, there were thirty instances of non-compliance resulting in forty pretrial violation reports being filed with the court. As shown in the following chart, the vast majority of the violations were technical in nature, specifically refrain from drug use.



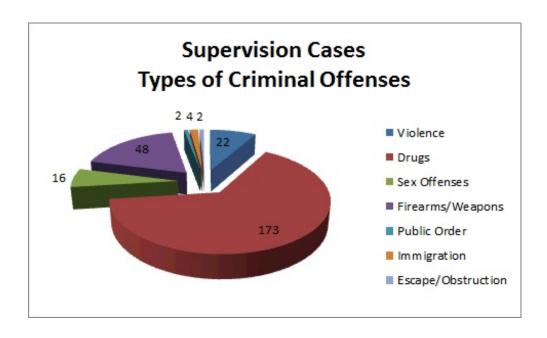
POST-CONVICTION SUPERVISION SERVICES

## Caseload

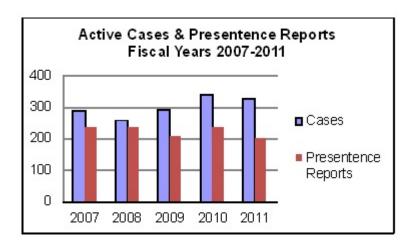
In terms of the types of post-conviction supervision cases, the total number of cases decreased slightly and the percentage of offenders on supervised release was 87%, probation 11.8%, and Bureau of Prisons cases 1.2%. In examining the risk level of the caseload, the District of NH averaged a 4.13 RPI score as compared to the National average of 3.7. The District ranked as the 21<sup>st</sup> highest average RPI score in the country.



The table below provides the breakdown by types of criminal offenses for the cases on supervision at the end of the fiscal year.



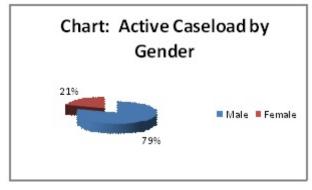
Cases received for supervision have continued to grow over the past few fiscal years as can be seen from the following chart.

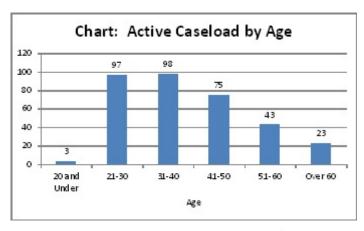


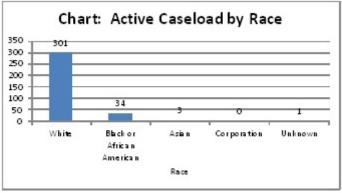
**Active Caseload Demographics** 

As can be seen in the following charts, the average offender in the District of New Hampshire is a white male, between 31 and 40 years old, and is employed.

Active Caseload Summary by Gender				
Male	269			
Female	70			
Corporation	0			
Total Active Cases	339			







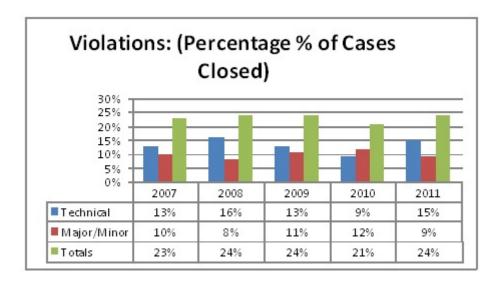
#### **Active Supervision Employment Statistics**

Total Active Cases as of 09/30/2011	329	
Number of Offenders Employed	219	64.6%
Unemployed	35	10.3%
Unemployed/Excused	63	18.6%
Unknown	22	6.5%
Total Number of Offenders Employed*	282	83.2%

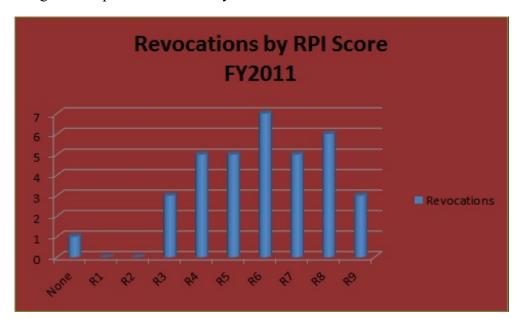
<sup>\*</sup> Percent employed is based on Dept. of Labor Standards to insure consistency between values calculated here and those published by the DOL.

#### **Supervision Outcomes**

Reliable national and district data are now available for determining post-conviction supervision outcomes. A "successful completion" outcome is currently defined as those cases whose original term of supervision expired on their full term date, were terminated via an early termination or completed their term after an extension. Correspondingly, an "unsuccessful" completion was a case whose term of supervision was closed due to revocation. In the District of New Hampshire, 140 cases were closed during FY 2011. Thirty-nine of those cases were closed due to revocation (12 for major violations, 1 for a minor violation and 26 for technical violations). In addition, 23 cases were closed for early terminations, 58 cases expired and 20 were closed for other reasons. The District's 27.9% revocation rate is a 5.5% increase over last fiscal year's rate and slightly less than the National rate of 29.4%.



The following chart depicts revocations by RPI score for FY 2011.



## **Treatment Services Expenditures**

Treatment services continued to be the District's second highest expense. As reported last year, the District's expenses in this area were again on the rise. Even with the concerted efforts supervision unit officers made in collecting co-payments from offenders, this cost factor rose slightly in FY 2011. The following table reflects the breakdown by category of the various treatment services carried out by the office and also includes the cost for urine collections:

TREATMENT SERVICES							
2008 2009 2010 2011							
Drug Aftercare	\$204,522.00	\$227,642.00	\$230,137.00	\$241,104.00			
Pretrial Services	\$122,507.00	\$113,719.00	\$142,010.00	\$126,464.00			
Electronic Monitoring	\$5,564.00	\$12,998.00	\$13,898.00	\$16,204.00			
Mental Health	\$16,333.00	\$30,307.00	\$13,133.00	\$14,518.00			
Sex Offender Tx		\$17,315.00	\$20,866.00	\$24,798.00			
TOTALS	\$348,926.00	\$401,981.00	\$420,044.00	\$423,088.00			

#### **Fines and Restitution Collection**

During the past fiscal year, there were 67 restitution cases for a total of \$86,828.86 owed and the number of cases making payments increased to 90% (52 out of 58 cases made regular payments compared to 87% the previous fiscal year). This marked the first year the District reached the unit goal of 90% of cases making regular payments. Seven cases had a fine payment obligation for a total of \$7,458.30 and the district had a 100% collection rate with all seven cases making regular payments. A total of \$7,529.03 was owed for Special Assessments; the collection rate for cases making regular payments in this category decreased from 74% to 70%. As the chart below will show, the largest portion of collections continue to derive from outstanding restitution. All offenders are required to have a payment schedule in place that has been approved by the Court. In addition, officers continuously review these payment schedules to ensure the plans are appropriate and based on the offender's most current financial status.

#### **Collection Percentage Paid**

Fiscal Year	Special Assessment (total cases/cases paid)	Fines (total cases/cases paid)	Restitution (total cases/cases paid)
FY 2008	75 cases/41 paid = 55%	11 cases/9 paid - 82%	47 cases/30 paid = 64%
FY 2009	92 cases/55 paid = 60%	13 cases/12 paid = 92%	50 cases/42 paid = 84%
FY 2010	101 cases/75 paid = 74%	7 cases/6 paid = 86%	52 cases/45 paid = 87%
FY 2011	84 cases/59 paid = 70%	7 cases/7 paid = 100%	58 cases/52paid = 90%

#### **Collection Amount Totals**

	SPECIAL ASSESSMENT	FINE	RESTITUTION	TOTALS
FY 2008	\$9,250.00	\$31,541.30	\$143,235.53	\$184,026.83
FY 2009	\$11,918.80	\$26,764.00	\$84,991.29	\$123,674.09
FY 2010	\$11,029.36	\$22,226.35	\$114,090.46	\$147,346.17
FY 2011	\$7,529.03	\$7,458.30	\$86,828.86	\$101,816.19

#### **ATLAS - Supervised Release File**

In FY 2009, a decision was made to begin utilizing the Supervised Release File (SRF) in ATLAS (Access To LAw enforcement Systems). By May 2010, all active supervision cases had been added to SRF and all cases that were being supervised on an inactive basis due to deportation issues were added to SRF. Contact between supervision officers and other law enforcement agencies occurs on a daily basis as a result of the SRF, and there have been many instances when law enforcement agencies have reached out to the supervising probation officer to provide a "heads up" on drug activity, domestic matters, and other noncompliance issues. During FY 2011, a total of 27,232 "hits" were reviewed by the two supervision clerks. Out of those 27,232 hits, 4,385 were valid hits on active (or deported) cases, and were forwarded to the appropriate supervision officers for follow up with law enforcement agencies.

#### **ATLAS "Hits"**

Fiscal Year	<b>Total SRF Hits</b>	Valid SRF Hits	Percentage of Hits
FY 2010 (began 11/14/2009)	12,158	2,505	21%
FY 2011	27,232	4,387	16%

#### **Law Enforcement Notification System (LENS)**

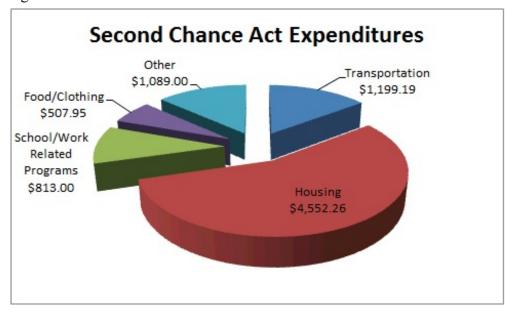
In FY 2010, the District of New Hampshire was selected as one of three districts to pilot the LENS system. The Law Enforcement Notification System (LENS) is a web-based system that was developed by the AO to support the Violent Crime Control Act (VCCA) and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) Act of 1994. An implementation plan was developed in the District and, in November 2010, a letter explaining the new LENS system, along with a LEA Contact Informational Sheet and a Business Reply Envelope, was sent to the over 230 police departments, sheriff's offices, state police and Attorney General's office in the District. In addition, brief informational training sessions were conducted in November 2010 with the larger police departments (Manchester and Nashua) and with the New Hampshire Office of Attorney General to assist them in the transition to the new LENS system. In February 2011, an overview of the LENS system was conducted at the quarterly New Hampshire Police Chiefs Association meeting. Response to these efforts was positive, and a total of 101 law enforcement agencies are currently registered in the district's LENS system. The office intends to continue the LENS implementation by reaching out to the remaining law enforcement agencies to ensure state-wide participation in LENS during the next fiscal year.

#### POST CONVICTION RISK ASSESSMENT

In December 2010, the CUSPO, DCUSPO, and supervision officers attended a Post Conviction Risk Assessment (PCRA) national training program in Charlotte, NC. PCRA is an evidence-based actuarial risk and needs assessment tool developed from data collected on federal defendants and offenders. It assists officers in targeting interventions, prioritizing by risk, identifying what factors to target for change, and how to remove barriers that hinder the effectively delivery of services. Not all offenders require the same level of supervision and identifying low risk offenders who pose minimal risk for recidivism allows the officer to target higher risk offenders for more intensive supervision and strategies. This training was followed up by Evidence Based Practices (EBP) 101 hosted by the District of Maine and a local PCRA case planning training session. Supervision officers are now certified users of the PCRA and actively utilizing the tool to determine the offender's risk level and elevated criminal thinking styles. Low risk offenders are designated to the Low Risk Supervision Caseload (absent the supervising officer's override) and officers are building case plans that target the identified dynamic risk factors and take into account the offender's personality traits and tendencies. This has allowed for increased time and resources being applied to the higher risk cases within the district while providing officers with policy and procedures that encourage a "step-down" in level of supervision for offenders posing reduced risk.

#### SECOND CHANCE ACT

On April 9, 2008, the *Second Chance Act of 2007*, Pub. L. No. 110-199, was enacted which authorized the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Court to contract for "treatment, equipment and emergency housing, corrective and preventative guidance and training, and other rehabilitative services designed to protect the public and promote the successful reentry of the offender into the community." The aim of the Act was to reduce recidivism, help offenders rebuild ties with their families, assist them in establishing a self-sustaining life, support evidence-based practices, and protect the public. Districts were allotted funds under the Second Chance Act for offender/defendant support in emergency and transitional services situations. The effective use of these funds is designed to reduce recidivism and mitigate crisis situations that offenders and defendants under supervision often encounter. The funds are "not to confer luxuries or privileges upon offenders" (42 U.S.C. § 17501(a)(4)). The following chart demonstrates how Second Chance Funds were expended in this District during Fiscal Year 2011.



#### **HAMPSHIRE HOUSE**

The Bureau of Prisons contracts with residential re-entry centers to provide assistance to inmates who are nearing release. Hampshire House, under the direction of its parent non-profit agency Community Resources for Justice, opened its doors on April 1, 2009. Hampshire House has a bed capacity for six females and twenty-four males. This District has been a key partner with Hampshire House and officers attend weekly program review team (PRT) meetings at the facility. The USPO representative meets new residents and assists with release planning which has resulted in streamlining the transition to supervised release and less adjustment issues for the offender once they complete their time at Hampshire House and re-enter society. There were 69 arrivals at Hampshire House between October 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011 (which is a decrease from the 87 arrivals received last fiscal year); of that amount, there were only 10 individuals (compared to 17 last fiscal year) terminated before completing the program. Nine of the ten offenders were returned to Bureau of Prisons custody for incident reports and one for escape.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### **Department of Information Technology**

Frank Clough is the Director of Department of Information Technology (IT) for the U.S. District Court and Eric Swanson, the Systems Administrator for the U.S. Probation Office, have continued to work closely with the probation office in the area of technology improvement. During Fiscal Year 2011, the District of New Hampshire was able to accomplish the following goals: internet and remote access problems encountered by the U.S. Probation Office location in Manchester were solved; work on the new bail report created in PSX of PACTS was begun; the Victim Notification System (VNS) which provides access to an electronic list of victims for a case and allows users to generate form letters to victims was implemented; upgrades were completed to allow additional electronic reporting by offenders to submit their monthly supervision reports through a secured internet site or kiosk; and upgrades to the Digital Pen project were implemented.

The U.S. Probation Office's upper management, in consultation with the Director of IT and the Systems Administrator, determined that due to budgetary considerations there would be a "moratorium" on new IT initiatives for 2011. Instead, the office would focus on completing the existing ongoing IT projects and implementing only new national initiatives.

In our on-going efforts to share resources, the probation office provided \$20,000 during the fiscal year to assist the IT Department in the purchase of items for the benefit of the Court as a whole.

#### **TRAINING**

The U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office for the District of New Hampshire is committed to pursuing proactive change and continuous improvement, as well as offering the opportunity for each staff member to continue his/her professional development. Training needs in the District are determined on a yearly basis through surveys of staff, the changing population of offenders, and the individual career goals of staff members.

This past year, officers attended training from Bureau of Prison staff on the availability of beds for

pretrial defendants at the local halfway house. Additional training was obtained in the areas of Post-Conviction Risk Assessment (PCRA), Pretrial Risk Assessment (PTRA) Certification, digital pen implementation, Evidence Based Practices, Monograph 111, use of web-based public records search programs to verify financial information, Decision Support System (DSS) capabilities, PACTS, and supervising sex offenders. Officer safety training and events continued unabated in 2011. In the spring of 2011, officers attended two different defensive tactics courses in addition to an FBI Officer Safety and Survival course. Three officer safety and/or firearms instructors received various certifications from the American Red Cross and one of the firearms instructors attended a 4-day course on instructor techniques for non-lethal training ammunition. As usual, semi-annual firearms qualification days were held which included drills and techniques for enhancing the weapons skills of officers who carry firearms. In terms of training initiatives for the Court Investigations Unit, officers attended the First & Second Circuit Federal Sentencing Seminar in the District of Vermont from April 27-29, 2011. Additionally, the unit also began to prepare for a national PACTS initiative, PSX. In all, twenty-four employees received 1,123.9 hours of training.

#### **BUDGET**

The office's budget increased by 5 percent over FY 2010. Salaries and Contractor Fees accounted for the vast majority of that change. As noted in last year's report, treatment services expenditures once again steadily continued to increase. The table below provides details in each of the budget categories:

EXPENDITURES				
	2008	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Salaries/Contractor Fees	\$1,905,223.00	\$2,028,294.00	\$2,034,538.00	\$2,149,445.00
Operations	\$132,276.00	\$92,659.00	\$147,704.00	\$79,895.00
Treatment Services	\$348,926.00	\$380,532.00	\$420,044.00	\$423,088.00
Furniture & Equipment	\$46,011.00	\$9,275.00	\$20,676.00	\$2,777.00
Telecommunications	\$38,322.00	\$33,622.00	\$48,787.00	\$47,466.00
Automation	\$31,304.00	\$57,296.00	\$68,149.00	\$52,134.00
TOTALS	\$2,502,062.00	\$2,601,678.00	\$2,739,899.00	\$2,754,805.00

#### **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

During FY 2011, and consistent with the recommendations of the year's peer-based Employee Recognition Committee, Chief Thomas K. Tarr cited the following staff members for outstanding work:

#### District Award for Exceeding Expectations Award - Karin Hess

Karin Hess was chosen to receive this award based on her involvement in the LASER Docket program. She routinely went above and beyond in working with LASER participants and provided them with

an opportunity to address their addiction problems, change their criminal thinking patterns and become more responsible individuals. In addition to her involvement in the LASER Docket program, Karin carried a supervision caseload and is part of the District Safety Team.

# Sustained Superior Performance Awards - Wendy Fosher and Tammy Greenwood

Wendy Fosher was recognized for her work and dedication in completing timely and well-written documents which officers us to complete the Part B Criminal History section of the presentence reports. Officers in the Court Investigation Unit noted that Wendy routinely above and beyond to obtain all information needed concerning a defendant's criminal history. In addition, she developed an excellent rapport with state court personnel which has enabled this office to obtain state court records in a timely manner.

Tammy Greenwood was recognized by members of the Supervision Unit for her ongoing efforts in all areas, but especially with her involvement in the LENS initiative. As the point of contact for this project, she spent countless hours working to ensure the project was completed in a timely fashion, spoke to numerous local, state and county law enforcement agencies, as well as attending numerous meetings to provide them with training. Her involvement in this project, in addition to her numerous other duties, enhance the daily supervision process in the District.